

**To:** EOC Public Information[EOC\_Public\_Information@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Gartner, Lois[Gartner.Loïs@epa.gov]; Wells, Suzanne[Wells.Suzanne@epa.gov]; Stalcup, Dana[Stalcup.Dana@epa.gov]  
**From:** Dreyfus, Melissa G.  
**Sent:** Thur 8/13/2015 5:14:39 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Associated Press Inquiry re: Superfund and the spill

Hello,

We believe questions #1 and 4 would be best answered by Region 8, as well as the first part of #5. OSRTI will work on #2, 3 and 5b.

Thanks

Melissa

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**From:** Thomas, Latosha on behalf of EOC Public Information  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 12:30 PM  
**To:** EOC Technical Specialist  
**Subject:** Associated Press Inquiry re: Superfund and the spill

Hi,

These are a subset of questions from Associated Press re: Superfund and the spill. Thanks!

- 1) --had Gold King Mine been designated a Superfund site, what would have been the chances of the spill happening?
- 2) --how many mines are currently on the National Priorities List? Can we get a list of those or is there a way to search on the Superfund website?
- 3) --is there a gauge of how often resistance to a Superfund designation by local officials has prevented a site's listing?
- 4) --was a preliminary assessment ever completed on the Gold King Mine or for a group of mines including Gold King?
- 5) --it's my understanding that the EPA has said a water treatment plant estimated to cost \$12-\$17m (and \$1M a year to operate) would be able to clean the water in the Animas. Is that correct? And if so, is it the type of expense that Superfund would cover?